



Dealing with drought: Small farmers and environmental hazards in southern St. Elizabeth, Jamaica

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Abstract:

This paper reports on ongoing research on the impact of global environmental and economic change on small farming in Jamaica using a case study of southern St. Elizabeth. The area is one of the principal small farming regions in the country and supplies both the domestic market and the Jamaican tourist industry. Farmers in this rain shadow region are susceptible to multiple hazards, and have been particularly badly affected by hurricanes, droughts and bush fires in recent years. This paper focuses on farmers' responses to and perceptions of drought hazards, and explores contrasts between drought hazard impacts and hurricane hazard impacts in three communities in the study area. Farmers' coping strategies are examined.

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Resource Description

Communication:

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

Communication Audience:

audience to whom the resource is directed

Public

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Hurricanes/Cyclones

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity

Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

Ocean/Coastal, Rural

Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

Non-United States: Non-U.S. North America

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact:

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Health Outcome Unspecified

Mitigation/Adaptation:

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

Population of Concern: A focus of content

Population of Concern:

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status, Workers

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale:

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content

